

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the present application. Claims 1-10 are pending in the application. New Claims 5-10 have been added. Applicants believe that no new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

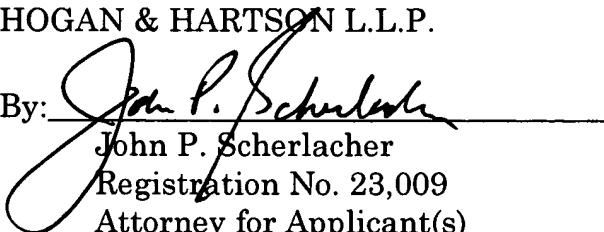
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (310) 785-4764 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: December 28, 2006

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